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15 MS. DETRAZ: Take a while to get up there

16 because of my knee.

17 MODERATOR BROWN: That's fine. And Russ

18 Michaelson I believe is following Marjorie.

19 MS. DETRAZ: I want you to read this. I

20 don't know how many of you are aware of it, but the

21 reason that we have Yucca Mountain to fight is because

22 of the county that I was born and raised in and still

23 live. And Louie Benezet and myself have been fighting

24 this nuclear waste in Lincoln County for 6 1/2 years,

25 and I feel like he's my brother. I'm so proud of his

0267

1 presentation tonight. He's a fine man, very brilliant

2 mind. And if you'd see how he has talked to in these

3 JCCIAC meetings, in fact we both are. This whole thing

4 is purely political. And I kid you not.

5 In Nevada, there are 17 counties, and our

6 Governor passed a state resolution that Nevada would

7 accept no more nuclear waste. They felt we had taken

8 or turn, so what did we have? A few small politicians

9 in Lincoln County defied the state and offered to be

10 the one who would make it possible for them to bring

550728

11 the nuclear waste from back East to Yucca Mountain.  
12 And so how much money, how many people have had to come  
13 to these meetings, all of these years, for this very  
14 reason. And you heard Louie talk about  
15 Robison-Seidler, that's the consultants for our county.  
16 And I can't begin to tell you how many billions and  
17 billions and billions of dollars they have taken, not  
18 only from Lincoln County, but they also serve  
19 Esmeralda, White Pine, the other nine counties that are  
20 affected. It's purely political.

21 You know, I, I personally think that it's  
22 time for Nevada to go on the offensive. We're not the  
23 crooks. We're not the robbers. We're the aggrieved  
24 people. You tell me, this defies anything I have ever  
25 heard of in my life. If you keep your yard clean, does  
0268

1 your neighbor have a right to throw his garbage over in  
2 your yard? Well, that's what they want to do. And  
3 every time they say not in my backyard, I say, not in  
4 my front yard either.

5 Why do we have to take everybody else's  
6 waste? And the thing of it is, folks, we have a  
7 brilliant guy who gave us the answer. I found this in

8 the "Review Journal," and it's dated April 14th, 1999.

550728

9 And it's called "Environmentalists Reject Yucca Dump."

10 I put on here, "Attention all Lincoln County and Nevada

11 citizens. This news article is the answer to our

12 prayers and will solve the nuclear waste storage

13 problem. Please read on and be vocal in supporting

14 it." We are not expendable. Protect our families.

15 And Louie and I are charter members of the

16 Citizens Nuclear Information Committee in Lincoln

17 County. And this is by Arjun Makhijani, who by the way

18 lives in Washington, D.C. He says, instead of a

19 federally chartered non -- now he's talking about this

20 nuclear waste program as they carry it on right now.

21 An alliance of environmentalists offered a plan Tuesday

22 that would eliminate Nevada as a nuclear waste storage

23 site, and take management of highly -- excuse me. And

24 take -- and take -- let's see. Lost my place. A

25 long-term -- thank you very much, I think that would

0269

1 help. Thank you.

2 And take management of highly radioactive

3 spent fuel away from the Energy Department. I don't

4 think DOE is up to the job of doing this work, said

5 Argen Makhijani, President of the Institute for Energy  
6 and Environmental Research.

550728

7 Now this is the solution, folks. Instead, a  
8 federally chartered, nonprofit corporation should be  
9 appointed to develop a long-term strategy for nuclear  
10 waste storage, Makhijani and other environmentalists  
11 said. The government would pay nuclear utilities to  
12 continue managing waste until their licenses expire.  
13 Then the corporation would assume ownership of the  
14 spent fuel. Money for the corporation would come from  
15 the Federal Nuclear Waste Fund, which is financed by  
16 payments from nuclear power rate payers.

17 Other features of the plan would include  
18 research into the seabed and other geological  
19 repositories and disposal beneath the earth's crust.  
20 What he's saying, folks, is we know it's here, it's a  
21 problem, and we have to solve it. But give science a  
22 time and a period to do that. It didn't take them  
23 100 -- we know they can keep it right where it is for  
24 100 years. It didn't take the scientists 100 years to  
25 produce the atomic bomb. And they're working on it

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1 every day. Leave it where it is. The -- a lot of the

2 problem is going to be in the transportation of it.

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3 And then again, you go into this political thing.

4 MODERATOR BROWN: You have about 30 seconds.

5 MS. DETRAZ: Oh my gosh, this reminds me of

6 Lincoln County. Every time we get in one of these

7 meetings, we're not allowed to say a word until the

8 meeting is over, and then Louie and I each have 5

9 minutes. And that's it. I think our right of freedom

10 of speech is being violated myself. See, here we -- I

11 drove 150 miles from Caliente to come down to this

12 meeting. And I certainly didn't think I'd be at this

13 time of the morning speaking. And I guess I've used up

14 my time.

15 Here -- let me just show you this photograph.

16 This is a photograph, and this nuclear train that's

17 going to start hauling the nuclear waste to Idaho is

18 going to start next month, folks. And it says here,

19 right here, it says big government started cleaning up

20 West Valley. It's going to start in West Valley, New

21 York, across all those 43 states, and it's going to be

22 kept in Scoville, Idaho until Yucca Mountain is

23 licensed. I mean, it's just almost a done deal.

24 According to them. Okay?

25 And get this, though. The government started

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1 cleaning up West Valley in 1982 and should complete the  
2 project soon. Now listen to this. The waste is being  
3 shipped to Idaho where it could be kept in dry storage  
4 casks for 30 years. For 30 years. At least until a  
5 permanent repository opens. Now if they can keep it  
6 there for 30 years, why are we pushing this thing on  
7 Yucca Mountain right now? Like it's got to be tomorrow  
8 or last week. 30 years. And that's what they're going  
9 to do, they're going to haul it across 43 states for 30  
10 years to get it from back East to Yucca Mountain, and  
11 all thanks to my county.

12 I told Lincoln County, you're the Judas  
13 Iscariot for the nation. They've been disloyal and  
14 unfaithful to Lincoln County, to the state of Nevada,  
15 and to the American people, who will be put in  
16 jeopardy. Their very lives. Can you imagine how many  
17 -- we're talking about billions and billions and  
18 billions of human beings over the next 30 years. Think  
19 about it, folks. And I have one more thought to leave  
20 with you. The blessing of freedom is easily taken for  
21 granted, until it is lost. Keep nuclear waste out of Nevada. Thank you.

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22 MS. DETRAZ: We talk about -- this is from

23 Albert Einstein. As this -- Albert Einstein and

24 Bertrand Russell said that people can scarcely bring

25 themselves to grasp as they individually and those who

0279

1 they love are in imminent danger of perishing,

2 agonizingly, and he's talking about nuclear.